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NO. 50.



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

WASHINGTON'S FARM.

Every son and daughter in the Union has heard of Mr. Vernon, the home of Gen. Washington. It is a place to which many a traveler bends his steps, in order to stand at the tomb of that great man, so dear to the memory of Americans.

A more has been made in Congress, that the United States purchase this homestead, and convert it to the use of an institution, where young men might be taught agriculture as a science, and agriculture as an art, that is to say, both the theory and practice of farming. This plan originated with F. P. Blair, Esq., and has been discussed in Congress, but no definite action taken upon it. Why does the proposition receive so little attention? Because it is of so peaceful and noiseless a character. It is too useful,—there is no blood and thunder about it. It is too devoid of gunpowder glory to excite attention.

Why is it only buying a farm where a flock of boys may be kept, and taught the peaceful art of growing breadstuffs and feeding cattle. Rustic operations, all of them, why trouble Congress about it? But Congress is bound to be troubled with it, and about it. We doubt if the cause of agriculture is to receive an eternal quietus, when brought into the halls of Congress. Our grave National Law givers will have to listen and act ere long, to the demands of the agricultural community, and grant what they ask.

The subject is growing every day among the agricultural community. It is discussed among the people in their town clubs, in their country societies, in their state gatherings, and in their journals. The following remarks we find in an address delivered not long ago, by Chauncy P. Holcomb, Esq., of Newcastle, Delaware, before the Montgomery County Agricultural Society, an address which every farmer will read with pleasure, and instruction.

"The farmer of Silver Springs, Francis P. Blair, Esq., has exhorted the Congress of the nation, in one of the most argumentative, eloquent and able appeals ever made to that body in the form of a memorial, exhorted them to the name of Washington—in the name of agriculture—in the name of the American people, to purchase the hallowed and consecrated ground of Mount Vernon, and dedicate it to the cause of the diffusion of agricultural knowledge. And yet Congress pauses. Five millions of agriculturists appeal in vain, for so small a boon. Represented through their societies, organized throughout almost every county in the Union, with State associations, and a national association, their annual gatherings already constituting the great national gala days of the country, with an agricultural press already read by a half million of voters—paying the taxes of the country—constituting three fourths of the population, and yet Congress gives to agriculture no bureau—no department—no institution of learning, they know us but to tax us."

In the moral world a just retribution is visited upon acts of omission, as well as upon acts of commission. The agriculturalists have but to combine to punish such slighting of their claims—such overlooking of themselves and their interests, and insure from more faithful servants more faithful work. The day of reckoning may be at hand."

SUBSOILING AFTER PLANTING.

It has been often demonstrated that the deeper you stir soil, the better will the crops on it resist the drought. This is owing to the chance which it gives for the roots of the crops to plunge so deep as to reach below the influence of the drought and thus be supplied with moisture during the growing and maturing season.

In the last Practical Farmer we find a communication from H. C. Vail of New York, who quotes a letter which he received from J. O. Flood of Paterson, (New Jersey) giving an account of the good effects of subsoiling the land. A part of his land was treated in a different way from any that we have ever seen.

He states that the spring when there was so wet that the ploughing was delayed so late as to prevent their subsoiling as much as they wished. A part of one field was subsoiled in the usual way while they were ploughing. The other field was not subsoiled when ploughed, but was at the first hoeing or weeding of the corn. This is a new mode, and was done as follows: "A light furrow was thrown from the corn, and the subsoil plough run deeply in the bottom, lightening up the soil without turning it over, and also allowing moisture to enter with gases and soluble substances as food for plants."

Mr. Flood says "in the fall, these cuts will be found full of roots, resembling two door mats standing on their edges."

If this process should be found on further trial, to be always beneficial in cases when it would be inconvenient to subsoil the whole piece at the first plowing, it might be useful to have subsoil ploughs made of a little lighter form, so as to be drawn by a single stout horse, between the rows.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. An abstract of the agricultural statistics of Ireland for 1854 has just been completed and issued by order of the government. From this return it appears that in the total quantity of land under cultivation in Ireland there has been this year the large decrease of 128,575 acres, as compared with the year 1853, owing to the great extent of land which the proprietors have been recently converting into pasture. There is, nevertheless, an increase in the breadth of land under the important crops of wheat and potatoes, the fallowing of being in that devoted to oats, barley, turnips, flax, &c.

For the Maine Farmer.

SCAB IN SHEEP.

Mr. Editors:—The scab, for the first time since the settlement of this town, has made its appearance among our sheep, and seems to be spreading somewhat extensively, and being entirely ignorant of the disease, its effects, remedy or cure, and being at a loss what to do, I take the liberty to write you with the hope of obtaining information through your paper.

Some have sold their entire flocks, and intend to obtain new ones that are not affected with, or been exposed to it. I do not see how this will accomplish the object, as long as other flocks, which are only separated by a rail fence, and which will more or less mix, are affected with it. Others, whose flocks have been exposed to the disease, have sold the most of their sheep, with the hope of obtaining and applying a preventive remedy, or effecting a cure of the few. Now, sir, I do not suppose, like some, that doctors and editors know everything, but do know, from the personal of the Farmer for a few years, that they know some things. Will you please give me some information about this sort of sheep itch—whether it will grow worse and worse, like the itch in the human family, or will it effect its own cure? Is there any preventive remedy or cure?—if so, what, how applied, and in what quantities? What shall we do? Had we better sell or kill all our sheep, and without a few, will "one scabby sheep spoil the whole flock?" C. R. L.

Bethel, Nov. 24th, 1854.

NOTE. We are sorry to hear that the disease called "scab" has got among the sheep in Bethel. It is a troublesome disorder, as we know from the fact of once having had some sheep infected with it. A few years ago it spread among the sheep in Winthrop, having been introduced there by some sheep bought from a drover.

It is a veritable itch, being produced by animalcules which burrow in the skin, and our friend may rest assured that it will never "cure itself," but grow worse and worse if neglected, and be communicated from sheep to sheep, as they come in contact with each other. When it was in Winthrop, many sold their whole flocks for slaughter as being the easiest mode of ridding themselves of the trouble. It is difficult making application to the skin of a sheep when the wool is long. The scab can be cured by faithful application. Messrs Jacobs & Tinkham of Monmouth, cured it off a flock of valuable merinos of theirs, which became infected with it. They boiled a large quantity of tobacco and poke root;—by poke root we mean the root of the green Hellebore, (Veratrum Viride), which grows abundantly in our wet meadows, and known to many as Indian Poke. They then drove the sheep into Mr. Tinkham's tannery, took the fleecing board or bench, which was generally made of half of a hollow log, and therefore convex on one side and concave on the other—turned it over so as to have the concave side up, and rested one end over the edge of the vat containing the tobacco liquor, thus forming a trough leading into the vat,—a couple of boards nailed at two of their edges so as to form a V trough would probably do as well. Being thus equipped, they would take a sheep and plunge her into the vat, and thoroughly soak with the bath, being sure that every part of the skin was fairly wet. Then the sheep was hoisted out and laid in the trough, and the liquor squeezed faithfully out of the wool, which ran again into the vat. This completely eradicated the scab.

It is quite a job to go through a flock of sheep in this way, but if thoroughly and faithfully done, will cure. We tried ointment, but unless you smear your sheep all over "from stem to stern," you cannot cure them. So, go through with the above course, or knock them on the head. Eo.

For the Maine Farmer.

NOTES IN SOMERSET COUNTY.—No. 2.

On leaving the fertile valley of Sandy River, and passing north through the thriving towns of Anson and North Anson, and their neat and flourishing villages on the west bank of the Kennebec, the country gradually becomes more broken, until the rugged hills of New Portland occupy an eminent position. To stand on these hills and "view the landscape o'er," the fertile hillsides and valleys, dotted with happy homes, the winding streams and glassy lakes, or even the "stern old hills," with their rocky barriers and wood crowned heights, the lover of Nature can find a rich repast. Viewed from an eminence, some of the farms in New Portland remind one of a lady's "hit-or-miss carpet,"—as if they were dropped in by chance, and the roads afterwards made to fit them.

This town is admirably adapted to wool growing, and the interest already manifested in the business may, if fostered, prove one of the most permanent and lucrative branches of agriculture. May it soon be a miniature Vermont.

Some of our best northern clover seed is raised on these hillsides, or in some rough "clearing." The fodder is often stacked in some spot almost inaccessible to the hay cart, where it remains until winter, and is then ploughed in and run through a threshing machine, or clover mill.

Arriving at Lexington, a stranger will naturally conclude that he has reached the last town, the frontier portion of country fitted for civilized life. There, securely cradled between the hills, is the Lexington valley or "flats," extending north and south six miles, and two miles broad.

Leaving this interesting valley for Dead River on the north, the seemingly impassable, forest-crowned hills form a striking contrast to the vale below.

A truthful writer says, "blowings brighten as they take their flight." I will add that here, the prospect brightens as we ascend the heights, until the winding forest-road leads us where we lose sight of "all the world and the rest of mankind." For several miles we gradually ascend the hills, or by a circuitous route, wind our way along some declivity, until a "horse back" or natural ridge is gained.

The lumberman—early saw the necessity of a good road as circumstances would admit, to transport their supplies over from the Kennebec to Dead River, and the result of their skill and labor is characteristic of the energy of many of the pioneer settlers.

An occasional clearing is an index of the abode of man, and frequently an inn greets the traveler, in some secluded spot and remote from neighbors. Emerging from the wilderness we arrive at Dead River with its fertile valley or intervals. This stream is appropriately named from its sluggish waters.

The natural forest growth of this valley is principally evergreen, spruce and cedar predominating. The soil somewhat resembles the Sandy River interval, but is less sandy. The abundant crops of grass, grain and potatoes, give proof that this is now one of the best agricultural districts in the State.

The wheat crop, I think, is quite as good and reliable as "out west." The farmers informed me that 40 bushels per acre had been produced, (probably extreme cases), but 25 bushels is frequently raised on a "burn," and 15 to 20 may be depended upon, after the land is cleared. A corn-fed Kennebecer may shrink at the idea that corn, his idol crop, is not adapted to this region, or at least the absence of corn fields shows that they do not consider it so reliable or their new clearings, and frosty land. A thrifty farmer told me that they could raise corn, but could raise an equal number of bushels of wheat cheaper. It is reported that there is a surplus of 3000 bushels of wheat raised this season in Dead River valley.

The ready market and high price which all their produce commands, for supplying the lumbermen, well repays the farmer for his toil and privations in this secluded valley.

The lumbering operations have, until recently, engrossed the attention of the people, but the sturdy plows and spades have been leveled to such an extent, that they now resort to the back lots or mountain sides for timber.

A heavy growth of cedar covers a portion of the low lands, but its remoteness from market has prevented a profitable transportation. The fire which have destroyed the forests in some sections have destroyed much valuable timber, the blackened ruins of which still remaining give evidence of severe loss.

TIME FOR BUYING FRUIT TREES.

Those who live at a distance from lines of communication, or who from any cause want ever might anticipate delay in getting their fruit trees from a nursery, had better order their trees in the fall, and preserve them through the winter in sand, or by what is called "heeling in," which is simply to dig a trench in a dry soil, and laying in the trees by the roots, and covering up carefully with the earth taken from the trench. There are many advantages in getting your trees in the fall. First, you have a better chance of selecting good thrifty trees before the stocks have been culled; second, in the fall you have more time to do things well, and make your preparations without the haste and hurry attendant upon spring work. The nurseryman who fills your order can do it much more to your mind than if the business is delayed till spring, and done among the hurry and bustle inseparable upon all the work done at that season. Dig the holes wherein you design to plant your trees this fall, dig them broad and deep, and let the frosts of winter act upon the soil thrown out and break it up. Those who have tried the plan, say that if the holes are dug in the fall for trees designed to be planted in the ensuing spring, the trees will make much greater growth than if not dug till spring. It seems plausible that it should be so. The action of air and atmosphere upon the soil must change its color, appearance and texture, and fit it for the nourishment of the roots, much more effectually if exposed for a length of time, than if not; and besides there is another advantage—if you find water remaining in the holes dug, you may be sure it is time and labor unprofitably bestowed to plant trees there until after the soil has been thoroughly drained.

THOROUGH TILLAGE.

Prof. Nash, editor of the Connecticut Valley Farmer, in his September number, gives a variety of notes gathered from farmers whom he had recently visited. We copy one of them:—"Our first gleanings are from a farmer in Worcester county, who showed us a three acre lot, once intolerably stony, now cleared of stones and trenched to a depth of sixteen or eighteen inches, and the soil to that depth made like a rich garden mould, by working and manuring. This lot is set to apple trees, now seven years from the seed, and already bearing considerably, many trees having something like a bushel of the choicest varieties of apples. Two acres of the lot are now in onions. The other acre has been a crop of barley, and is to give another of turnips. The onions are in drills, 12 or 14 inches apart, and if we are any judge of such matters, they must yield over a thousand bushels from the two acres, and we should not think it strange if the yield should be nearer two thousand. We have grown them on small patches, at the rate of very nearly a thousand bushels to the acre, but we have never seen a heavier growth than this whole field seems likely to reach. The owner declares that he is managing this field with a view to test the question, whether three acres cultivated in the best manner, cannot be made to give a clear profit over all expenses of cultivation equal to the average profit on farms of a hundred acres, in that county, cultivated in the ordinary way. His view at first struck us as extravagant, but on learning what crops he had taken from that field and seeing his prospects for large quantities of choice fruit in coming years, we were constrained to admit that he probably will obtain a greater net profit from those three acres for a succession of years, than is derived from some farms of a hundred acres."

MANURE is the capital on which farmers do business; and the man who teaches them how to obtain it at a reasonable rate, and in sufficient quantities, does the public better service than if he lectured the living day on copper and silver mines, and amused the sleepy hours with golden dreams.

WEST SOMERSET AG. SOCIETY.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The annual Cattle Show and Fair of the West Somerset Agricultural Society, was held at Madison Bridge, October 11th & 12th. The weather was favorable, and the show of horses and neat stock was larger than at any previous exhibition of the Society.

A very interesting address was delivered before the Society on the day of the fair, by Dr. E. Holmes, of Winthrop, which was listened to with much attention by a large concourse of people.

The exercises were enlivened by a few songs, from G. W. Chase, Esq., of New Sharon. The original song, by Mr. Chase, was characteristic of its author, and excited much merriment. Taken altogether, the people went home satisfied that it was the best cattle show and fair they ever attended.

The following are the reports and lists of the premiums awarded by the different Committees.

On Horses.

The Committee on horses beg leave to make the following report:—To Barton Hill, of Norridgewock, we award the society's first premium on stallions. To Tilton Hill, Goodrich, of Madison, we award the second premium,—and to Eli Walker, of Anson, the third premium.

The horse entered by J. Williams, your committee consider a very fine one.

We regret much that there were so few entries of animals of this class.

On breeding mares we award the first premium to David Ditson, of Starks. To Charles Withee, of Madison, the second,—and to Amasa Bixby, of Norridgewock, the third.

There were several other mares on the ground that would bear critical examination, but where so many are presented, all of which are prime animals, it is difficult selecting the very best.

Colts. Your committee award the first premium on 3 year old colts to G. F. Hoald, of Norridgewock. The second to Nathan Weston, of Madison. The third to Cyrus Hilton, of Anson.

Worthy mention may be made of the colts entered by Jos. Vickery and Orren W. Gratton. The first premium on 2 year old colts, we award to M. F. Waugh, of Mercer. The second to Jacob Savage, of Concord. The third to James D. McWay, of New Portland.

The first premium on one year old colts we award to David Ditson. The second to G. F. Hoald,—and the third to Amasa Bixby.

We would suggest the propriety of offering in future, a premium on geldings and fillies, as several animals of these kinds were on the grounds for exhibition. JOTHAM GOODRICH.

On Bulls and Bull Calves.

The Committee appointed to award premiums on bulls and bull calves, would respectfully report as follows:—

We award the society's first premium, to Col. John Hoald, of Anson. The second to Samuel Burns 2d, of Madison. The third to Benjamin Hilton, of Starks. The fourth to Jas. G. Waugh, of Starks.

There were but two entries of bull calves. We award the first premium to James M. Savage, of Madison. The second to Joshua Ellis, of Madison.

On Town Teams and Working Oxen.

The committee on town teams and working oxen, ask leave to make the following report:—There were 4 town teams entered for premiums, viz: 1 from Starks, 1 from Anson, 1 from Madison, and 1 from Norridgewock. Your committee award the first premium to the team from Starks; and to the team from Madison, the third.

Three years old steer team. We award to the steer team from Madison, the first premium; to the steer team from Norridgewock, the second premium; and to the team from Starks, the third.

On Working Oxen. We award to Wm. Pullen of Anson, the first premium on working oxen; to Simon Piper of Starks, the second premium, and to Jotham S. Blackwell, of Madison, the third.

On Three and Two years old Steers.

The committee on three and two years old steers, submit the following report:—We award the society's first premium on 3 years old steers, to Levi Holway, of Starks; the second to James M. Hilton, of Anson, 1 from Madison, and 1 from Norridgewock. We should have been glad to have given all a premium, but the funds of the society say, "thus far shall thou go and no farther."

Two years old steers. Your committee award to Rufus Bixby, the first premium on two years old steers; to Jonathan S. Longley of Norridgewock, the second; to Wm. B. Merry, of Anson, the third.

On Yearling Steers and Steer Calves.

The committee on yearling steers and steer calves, report as follows:—We award to Charles L. Manter, your first premium on one year old steers, to Joshua Ellis, the second; and to S. W. Tinkham the third. We recommend a gratuity of 50c. each to Wm. B. Merry and Jotham S. Bixby.

On Steer Calves we award to John Bray, of Anson, your first premium; to G. W. Blackwell the second.

We hope to see more of this kind of stock entered next year, it being as true in this as in any thing else, that "all oaks from little acorns grow."

On Cows.

The committee on cows beg leave to report, that more than twenty cows were entered for premiums. To designate six from among that number as being the best, was no very easy task. We awarded no premiums to stock cows unless their progeny was on the ground before us. The premiums on stock cows we award as follows:—

To John Burns, of Madison, the first; to Joshua Ellis, of Madison, the second; and to J. B. Brown, of Norridgewock, the third.

On milk cows, we award your first premium to S. W. Tinkham, of Anson; the second to W. Waugh, of Starks; the third to David M. Lane, of Anson.

W. Waugh, of Starks; the third to David M. Lane, of Anson.

Wm. B. Merry, Col. Hoald and J. Bray, of Anson; J. M. Savage and Jonathan Piper, of Madison; Joshua Hilton, of Starks; and Rufus and S. Bixby, of Norridgewock, all presented good animals for stock and milking qualities. JOSHUA BUTLER.

On Heifers and Heifer Calves.

The committee on heifers and heifer calves having attended to their duty, beg leave to report:—

On two years old heifers, to Jotham S. Longley, of Norridgewock we award the first premium; to James G. Waugh, of Starks, the second; and to Wm. W. Waugh, of Starks, the third.

On heifer calves. We award to James B. Brown, the first. On three years old heifers we award to Joshua Hilton, of Starks, the first premium; to Wm. B. Merry, the second; and to Jotham S. Bixby, the third.

On yearling heifers, to Wm. B. Merry, the first; to Joshua Hilton, the second; and to Charles L. Manter, the third. AMASA BIXBY.

On Swine.

The Committee on Swine ask leave to report as follows:—

Your committee award the first premium on hogs, to J. M. Wood, of Norridgewock; and the second to Lyman M. Gratton.

Your committee award the first premium on sows, to Lyman M. Gratton, and also the premium on best litter of pigs.

There were some fine pigs presented by B. T. Dinmore, and had there been a second premium on pigs offered by the society, he most certainly would have received it. We would recommend a gratuity of 50c. to B. T. Dinmore.

Can we not have a little better show of hog-kind next year? JOHN WASSON, JR.

[The remainder of the reports will be published next week.]

TWO KINDS OF FARMING.

FOOLISH FARMING. As there will be fancy farming, so there will be, doubtless, a great deal of foolish farming. By foolish farming is understood that kind of procedure which every man might foresee would be unprofitable to the farmer.

We frequently hear men saying that their fathers, with little labor and trouble, could raise much larger crops than they can now by the same or any other process. Yet they will strenuously contend that the way of their fathers is always to be perpetuated. They have full and clear evidence that the soil has been exhausted—that it is not now productive; but they will learn no better way. They know that they make no profit from farming, but they continue it! They sell grow poorer and poorer every year; yet they contend that it is the very best way of farming! What folly! What blindness.

There are hundreds and I presume to say there are thousands of farms in New Hampshire, which are now in such an exhausted condition that the whole proceeds of them yearly would fall below the cost of cultivation and the taxes assessed on them. If a man could have one of them given to him, and be obliged to pay taxes on it and hire it carried on, he would sink in debt every year. This is to continue the same in future, for such of our farmers seem to despise the very idea of learning anything about farming. They look upon our agricultural societies as "pieces of speculation," and upon all ideas of agricultural improvement as "a humbug."

There are others who continue to use the most miserable tools that they can pick up, for no other reason but because they can buy them cheap. Nothing is done on their farms, for there are no tools with which anything can be done well. Their deficient culture is followed by deficient crops, and an absence of profit. It costs them as much labor for a poor crop as it would have cost for a good one. If a good crop would have afforded a moderate profit, a poor one leaves a loss to the farmer.

Another folly, in farming is to cultivate more ground than can be manured. In all such cases loss is certain to the cultivator. Nothing else than high culture affords a real and lasting profit. Crop the ground without manuring it, and you will lose money by it, and the ground will become worthless. There will, undoubtedly, continue to be such farmers.

PORTABLE FARMING. Farmers will in future time come to understand that the earth and the air are both full of wealth to them. They will understand that the deeply bedded clay and the hard pan which is hidden far down in the ground are worth something more than merely to hold the world together. They will be found opening deep and broad drains, in the operation of which they will obtain valuable material for top-dressing on their upland, and at the same time make their lowlands of much greater value by relieving them of surplus water. They will discard the idea of cultivating much land with the use of a little manure, as requiring much labor and tending to poverty. High cultivation, without fancy farming, will be the way of the successful farmer of future time.

The importance of thoroughly pulverizing the soil will be better understood, and the value of the subsoil. Men who know little or nothing, by experience, about the use of plows, and other farming implements, and men who understand no principle of science, will not much longer be trusted and credited in making and recommending such implements. Farmers will have all these things tested by science and by experiment. The plowman will also come under new orders. He will learn that his object is no longer to be the plowing over as much ground as possible in a day; but, to thoroughly plow and pulverize every inch of ground he goes over.

The conditions of respectability will be somewhat changed. The young man will not think it a dishonor to him to work on a farm. The young women will no more think herself degraded by familiarity with the kitchen. Intelligence, industry, usefulness, will measure merit and establish a title to respect. These things we ought to consider now. (Mr. Cumming's Address before the Connecticut River Agricultural Society.

THE CRICKET.

BY BAYARD TAYLOR.

Welcome with thy clicking, cricket! Clicking songs of sober mirth; Autumn, stripping field and thicket, Brings thee to my hearth, Where thy clicking shrills and quickens, While the mist of twilight thickens.

Later, by the garden wicket, Where the thick grass grows unclipped, And the still breeze stirs, crickets, Silver-trickling slip!

Thou, in mid-day's silent glitter, Mocked the flickering flame's twister.

Now thou art, my cheerful cricket, Nimble quickener of my song; Not a thought but thou shalt seek it In thy lowly tongue.

And my clock, the moments ticking, Is thy constant clicking, clicking. No annoy, good-humored cricket, With thy trills is ever blent;

Spleen of mine, how dost thou trick it To a calm content!

So, by thicket, hearth, or wicket, Click thy little lifetime, cricket!

WINTER MANAGEMENT OF SHEEP.

In wet weather it is of great advantage to be able to fodder under shelter. I have abandoned the practice of salting my hay, except when compelled, by stress of weather, to house it before it is thoroughly cured. My sheep are salted about once a week the year round, and instead of giving them tar as recommended by some persons, I occasionally strew the yard with pine boughs, of which they are fond.

I regard the full management of lambs one of the most important branches of sheep husbandry. They should be separated from their dams about the first of September, and with a few old sheep, require nursing, turned to the best pasture. Care should be taken that they are not stunted till removed to winter quarters, when they should have a small allowance of grain or oil-meal in addition to a plentiful supply of good hay. As soon as the pasture begins to fail the ration of grain should be supplied. By neglecting to provide suitable pasture for a lot of upwards of 100 very superior lambs one season, I lost the greater part of them the ensuing winter. My utmost efforts, after I discovered the error, were of no avail. I gave them a comfortable shed, plenty of litter, good hay, and a regular allowance of meal, and free access to water; but they never recovered, and the greater part died before spring.

My bucks and ewes are put together about the first of December. The flock which I keep at my home barn, under my own eye, and from which I raise bucks for the supply of my own, and many of my neighbor's flocks, is managed in this way. The ewes in lots of 20 to 35 are placed in separate pens, and a select buck is turned into each pen, where they are kept together 15 or 20 days. The ewes in each pen are marked with a letter in tar and lamplack to indicate what buck they were served by. At shearing time, the best buck lambs are selected, and receive a mark to denote their origin.

In my judgment, water is as essential to sheep as it is to any other animal. They will go through the winter on snow instead of water, and so would a man or a horse, if compelled by necessity to do so; but either would prefer to have it thawed before using it, rather than perform that office in his bowels.

When my sheep run in large flocks without shelter, they were occasionally afflicted with the scab, but since I have provided comfortable sheds for them, they have been troubled with no serious disease. This climate is well suited to the deer, depending on disorder of the stomach, occasioned by feeding for some time on indigestible food, such as rape, dry grass, or ripe grass seed of any kind. The disease is almost entirely confined to the time of year when ripe grasses are most freely eaten. Several horses on one farm have been affected at once. It comes on, sometimes gradually and sometimes suddenly. The treatment consists in giving a dose of opening medicine, feeding on bran for several days, and giving tonics. The old diet must be carefully avoided, as no cure can be effected so long as the food is given which has caused the disease. Some horses have got completely well by turning them into a bare old pasture. [Country Gentleman.]

CHEAP FOOD FOR PIGS. The past season of extraordinary drought has suggested some valuable experiments, one of which, although at present a little out of date for most farmers, may still be of use to some, and it is believed that they may generally adopt it with much advantage another year.

In consequence of the extreme scarcity of both grain and green pasture, corn-stalks which had been sown for fodder, were used to great advantage in the following way: They were first cut up as finely as practicable, by means of a straw cutter, and then mixed with the kitchen slops for a short time, with a portion of bran or other ground food added. There should not be much slop or water, or so much as to make the mixture sloppy, but enough to cause the meal to adhere and cover the chopped stalks.

Corn stalks which have been sown so thickly as to form no ears, contain a great deal of sweet juice, and are highly nutritious—probably as much so as the same amount of green corn in the cob, although not so tender—while for cheapness this kind of food far exceeds anything else of the kind that can be had late in summer.

Such farmers as may have late sown corn, may still avail themselves of its use in the way we have described, and if taken before too mature, they may form an estimate of this mode of feeding, for adoption another year. [Albany Cultivator.]

THE KITCHEN.

WE give to intellect, to morality, to religion, and to all the virtues, the honor that belongs to them. And still, it may be boldly affirmed, that economy, taste, skill, and neatness, in the kitchen, have a great deal to do in making life happy and prosperous. Nor is it indelibly necessary that a house should be filled with luxuries. All the qualifications for good house-keeping can be displayed as well on a small scale as on a large one. A small house can be more easily kept clean, than a palace. Economy is most needed in the absence of an abundance. Taste is as well displayed in placing the dishes on a pine table, as in arranging the folds of a damask curtain. And skilful cooking is as readily discovered in a nicely baked potato, or in a respectable Johnny-cake, as in a nut-brown air-lin, or a brace of canvas-backs. The charm of good house-keeping is in the order, economy, and taste displayed in attention to little things. And these little things have a wonderful influence. A dirty kitchen, and bad cooking have driven many a one from home, to seek for comfort and happiness somewhere else. Domestic economy is a Science—a theory of life, which all sensible women ought to study, and practice. None of our excellent girls are fit to be married, until they are thoroughly educated in the deep, and profound mysteries of the kitchen. See to it, all ye who are mothers, that your daughters are all "accomplished" by an experimental knowledge of good house-keeping. [Ohio Farmer.]

WOOD FIRES. In many a green valley of rural New England there are children yet; boys and girls are still to be found not quite overtaken by the march of mind. There, too, are huskings, and apple bees, and quilting parties, and huge old-fashioned fire-places piled with crackling walnut, flinging its rosy light over many countenances of youth, and scarcely less happy age. If it be true, that, according to Cornelius Agrippa: "A wood fire doth drive away dark spirits," it is nevertheless also true that around it the simple superstitions of our ancestors still love to linger; and there the half-sportful, half-serious charms of which I have spoken are oftenest resorted to. It would be altogether out of place to think of them by

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

By the arrival of the Africa at New York, on Wednesday last week, we have three days later news from Europe. A further decline in breadstuffs is reported.

Lord Palmerston left London on the 16th, for Paris. He was accompanied by his wife. Although numerous rumors are afloat as to the object of his mission, there is little probability of the true one having transpired. Some say to arrange the re-establishment of the kind of peace which others assert that his main business is to prevent the United States from absorbing Cuba, Hayti, the Sandwich Islands and other islands.

Both houses of Parliament are further prorogued till December 14th.

A Liverpool paper of November 18th says: "The Government have taken the Cunard steamer Niagara for the purpose of conveying troops to the Crimea, and in consequence, there will be no conveyance by that ship to the North American mails on the 25th inst. At present, it is not expected that there will be any further derangement of the American Mail service, and the Government are rising from the withdrawal of the Niagara will be trifling, as there will be an American boat leave here on Wednesday week."

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BRUNSWICK TELEGRAPH.

EXPLOSION OF A RUSSIAN BATTERY.

Before Sebastopol, Oct. 22. Correspondence of the London Times. Until 20 minutes after 2 o'clock, (Oct. 18), the French Batteries directed their fire upon the 12th, when, unfortunately, the Russians projected a shell so truly into their battery, that, falling into one of their gun barrels, it exploded, causing, of course, fearful loss of artillerymen. A few minutes afterwards—that is, about half past 2—another shell was directed towards the same spot with similar unfortunate results. The Russian batteries which it now all on the spectacle, a sound which made the French and English magazines acquired them of our misfortunes, but it was not our turn to crow. About half past 3, there suddenly shot upwards from the works, or rather the Redan on our front, a white fire flame, which ascended high into the air, and while we all paused to gaze on the spectacle, a sound which made the French and English magazines acquired them of our misfortunes, but it was not our turn to crow. About half past 3, there suddenly shot upwards from the works, or rather the Redan on our front, a white fire flame, which ascended high into the air, and while we all paused to gaze on the spectacle, a sound which made the French and English magazines acquired them of our misfortunes, but it was not our turn to crow.

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MAINE FREE-WILL BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION.

This Convention was held at Topsham, Nov. 22, and was organized by choice of Hon. Messrs. Sweet of Portland, as President, and Rev. O. B. Cheney, of Augusta, Secretary. Although the day was stormy, the number in attendance was respectable, and all parts of the State were represented, and the Convention was harmonious in its action. This action is fully represented by their resolutions, which are in substance as follows:

That the time has arrived when the Free-Will Baptists in Maine should concentrate their educational efforts in the establishment of a Literary Institution of such character as shall meet the wants and secure the interest of the denomination throughout the State.

That it is expedient to apply to the Legislature of this State to incorporate such an institution, and suitably endow the same; that a committee of five be appointed to carry this purpose into effect, and to report to the next meeting of the Convention.

That the establishment of the institution contemplated, there is no intention to interfere with the interests of other similar institutions, within and without the State, but a hearty sympathy is expressed in their operations.

In pursuance of the action of the Convention, the following persons were appointed as a committee:—Rev. O. B. Cheney of Augusta, Rev. Ebenezer Knowlton of Montville, Hon. Joseph Berry of Georgetown, Rev. Stephen Williamson of Skowhegan, Rev. Leonard Hathaway of Portland, Rev. B. D. Peck of Portland, Rev. J. C. Lyford of Augusta, Rev. J. S. Edgemoor of Vienna, Rev. C. O. Libby of Portland, Rev. J. S. Burgess of Lewiston, Rev. Philip Weaver of Bangor, Rev. Theodore Stevens of Bangor, Rev. J. C. Libby of Portland, Rev. E. H. Hart of Harrison, and Rev. C. H. Smith of Skowhegan.

The only literary institution which this denomination have had under their charge in this State, was the Portland Free-Will Baptist Seminary, which was consumed by fire a short time since; and this unfortunate circumstance has given rise to this Convention, and developed this new, enlarged and more useful plan of a permanent State literary institution. We trust they will succeed in this laudable enterprise. This denomination is already quite numerous in Maine, having between 13,000 and 14,000 church members, and is rapidly increasing, and they have only received from the State the sum of \$2,000 for educational purposes. (Kennebec Journal.)

IL SUCCESS OF THE WHALING FLEET. Copious reports from whaling fleets in the Chobok and the Arctic Seas, received here, in search of the remains of Franklin's party and of Capt. Colman wholly in the hands of the Hudson Bay Company. The expedition to relieve Capt. Colman is no longer necessary, but one will probably be sent early in the spring to the spot where the remains of Franklin's party were seen by the Esquimaux.

FROM KANSAS TERRITORY. At Leavenworth on the 4th, a meeting was held for the purpose of forming a squatter association to take jurisdiction over all the territory ceded to the United States by the Delaware Indians. The meeting was held at Leavenworth, and was attended by a large number of settlers. The association was formed, and the members agreed to take jurisdiction over the territory ceded to the United States by the Delaware Indians.

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| Item | Price |
|---------------------|---------|
| Flour, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Wheat, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Barley, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Oats, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Hay, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Straw, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Grain, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Seed, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Manure, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Tools, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Hardware, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Textiles, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Books, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Paper, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Stationery, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Printing, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Advertising, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Shipping, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Freight, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Insurance, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Interest, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Exchange, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Gold, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Silver, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Copper, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Iron, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Steel, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Lead, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Zinc, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Aluminum, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Platinum, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Palladium, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Rhodium, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Ruthenium, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
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| Platinum, 100 lb | \$10.00 |
| Palladium, 100 lb | \$10.00 |

